ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# MACEDONIA

# BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

1895.

# MINUTES

—OF THE—

## Sixteenth Annual Session

—OF THE—

# Macedonia Association

—HELD WITH—

## Oak • Grove • Church,

WASHINGTON COUNTY, ALA.,

October 4th, 5th and 6th, 1895.

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**OFFICERS.**

D. HENSON, MODERATOR,.....State Line, Miss
J. C. WILLIAMS, VICE-MODERATOR,.....State Line, Miss
J. J. MASSEY, CLERK AND TREASURER, .....State Line, Miss

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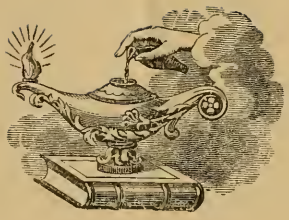
JOHN M. MURPHEY, PRINT,
MERIDIAN, MISS.



# MINUTES.

The Sixteenth Session of the Macedonia Association met with Oak Grove church, Washington county, Alabama, on Friday before the first Lord's Day in October, A. D. 1895.

The appointee from last session, Bro. A. J. Easley, being present and filled with the spirit, services were opened by Bro. J. C. Williams, by reading the 22nd chapter of Revelations.

Prayer by Bro. Jno. Robins.

Bro. Easley took the stand and preached to a large congregation. Text, 4th and 7th verses of Paul's writing to Timothy.

Adjourned one hour for dinner.

The Moderator not being present, the house was called to order by Bro. Clem Henson, Vice-Moderator.

Sang hymn, "Come Ye that Love the Lord."

Prayer by Bro. A. G. Whitt.

Then moved, seconded and carried to adopt the former order of business.

The following committees were then appointed:

Reading Clerks—Bros. J. C. Williams and Mack Bridges.

Finance Committee—Bros. J. M. Williams, A. C. Copeland and M. F. Smith.

Preaching Committee—J. M. Robertson, I. K. Lane, J. A. McKay.

Associational letters were called for and responded as follows :

Antioch—S. R. Hartley, A. C. Copeland, W. L. Touchstone.

Macedonia—J. M. Williams, J. C. Williams, J. J. Massey, W. Williams.

Oak Grove—D. Williams, J. M. Preston, R. J. Millstead, J. E. Williams, Washington C. Henson, alternates.

Baset's Creek—Elder A. J. Easley, J. I. Easley, J. M. Porter.

County Line—M. F. Smith, J. W. Norsworthy, U. L. Lofton, W. N. Henderson, J. Slay, alternate.

New Hope—M. W. Bridges, S. C. Givens.

Johnson Creek—I. K. Lane.

Mount Nebo—W. K. Stoker, J. F. Dikes.

Bilbo—W. L. Patrick, J. U. Cooper.

Spring Bank—Jno. A. McMillan, Thomas Deese, T. J. Deese, F. W. Hill, alternate.

Cedar Creek—Jno. Roberson.

The report of the Committee on Preaching was received as follows: Bro. L. Fosdick to preach at the church at 7:30 p. m.; C, Henson, alternate. Bro. A. G. White to preach at the stand to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m. ; Bro. Holland, alternate.

Moved and seconded to go into election of officers, which resulted as follows :

Elder D. Henson, Moderator.

Bro. J. C. Williams, Vice-Moderator.

Bro. J. J. Massey, Clerk and Treasurer.

Corresponding Messengers were called for and responded as follows :

Leaf River Association—E. W. L. Davis, with letter.

South Eastern Association—R. M. Holland.

Committee on Letters and Documents—D. Williams, Jno. A. McMillon.

Committee on Sabbath Schools—C. Henson, John Roberson.

Committee on Correspondence—A. J. Easley, I. K. Lane.

Committee on Publications—J. W. Norsworthy, J. M. Williams, L. Fosdick.

Committee on Missions—W. K. Stoker, E. W. L. Davis, W. Williams, R. M. Holland, and R. J. Millstead, added.

Committee on Tribute of Respect—A. C. Copeland, J. M. Porter.

Committee on Queries and Requests—M. W. Bridges, J. M. Preston, J. A. McKay. Moderator and W. J. Williams, added.

Committee on Investigation—W .N. Henderson, Thos. Deese, J. Slay, T. J. Deese, added.

Committee on Temperance—W. L. Touchstone, S. R. Hartley, M. F. Smith ; G. L. Lofton, added.

Committee on Education—J. C. Williams, W. L. Patrick, S. C. Givens ; J. U. Cooper added.

Moved, seconded and carried, to receive the report of committee on Preaching.

We, your committee on Preaching, beg leave to report as follows :

Bro. Levi Fosdick to preach at the church to-night at 7:30 p. m. ; Bro. Clem Henson, alternate.

Bro. A. G. White to preach at the stand to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m. ; Bro. R. M. Holland, alternate.

JOHN ROBERSON, Chairman.

## SATURDAY.

**Report of Preaching Committee.**

We, your committee, beg leave to report as follows: Bro. L. Fosdick to preach at the stand at 2 p. m.; Bro. K. Moss, alternate. Bro. J. L. Cassey to preach to-night ar the church house at 7:30 p. m.; Bro. R. M. Holland, alternate. Bro. D. Henson to preach to-morrow at 11 o'clock a. m.; Bro. J. C. Williams, alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN ROBERSON, Chairman.

Moved, seconded and carried to adjourn till Saturday at 9:30 a. m.

## SATURDAY—9.30 A. M.

The Association re-assembled pursuant to adjournment.

House called to order by the Moderator for the transaction of business.

Sang, "Did Christ O'er Sinners Weep."

Prayer by Bro. A. J. Easley.

The Moderator then announced the house ready for the transaction of business.

Churches not represented yesterday were then called for.

Magnolia—B. F. Woulard. By letter.

Liberty—Not represented.

Chason—Not represented.

Petitionary letters—None.

Report on Correspondence was called for and responded as follows:

Antioch Association—J. L. Casey, J. J. Harrison, N. B. Bryant.

Report on Sabbath Schools called for, and after an interesting discussion by Bros. C. Henson, J. L. Cassey, was adopted as read.

C. HENSON, Chairman.

Roll called and delegates noted not present.

Report on Correspondence read, and, after being discussed by Bros. I. K. Lane and R. M. Holland, adopted as read.

I. K. LANE, Chairman.

Report on Publication read, and, after a discussion by Bro. L. Fosdick, adopted as read.

J. M. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Report on Missions read, and, after being discussed by Bros. A. J. Easley, N. H. Sanford, B. F. Wolard, W. L. Patrick, J. L. Cassey, A. G. White, adopted as read.

W. K. STOKER, Chairman.

Moved and seconded to adjourn one hour for dinner, refreshments being served in abundance for all.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Moderator called the house to order.

Moved, seconded and carried to limit each speaker to five minutes.

Report of committee on Tribute of Respect discontinued.

Report on Preaching received and adopted as read.

JOHN ROBERSON, Chairman.

Report on Investigation read, and, after being discussed by Bros. H. N. Smith, Norsworthy, A. G. White, A. J. Creed, L. Fosdick, J. L. Cassey, M. F. Smith, adopted as read.

W. N. HENDERSON, Chairman.

Report on Temperance read, and, after being discussed by Bro. J. L. Cassey, adopted as read.

W. L. TOUCHSTONE, Chairman.

Report on Queries and Requests read, and, after being discussed by Bros. W. K. Stoker, B. F. Wolard, A. G. White, J. Slay, E. W. L. Davis, A. J. Easley, adopted as read.

W. M. BRIDGES, Chairman.

Report on Education read, and, after being discussed by Bros. J. L. Cassey, B. F. Wolard, E. W. L. Davis, adopted as read.

J. C. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Moved, seconded and carried to allow the Moderator to appoint an Executive Board.

**Roll of Executive Board.**

Antioch—A. C. Copeland, S. R. Hartley.
Macedonia—J. C. Williams, J. M. Williams.
Oak Grove—W. J. Williams, J. M. Preston.
Washington—C. Henson, J. G. Thomas.
Baset's Creek—J. M. Porter, A. J. Easley.
County Line—J. W. Norsworthy, M. F. Smith.
Magnolia—B. F. Wolard, Henry Shotes.
Cedar Creek—Jno. Roberson, Dock Miller.
Sand Ridge—L. B. Beckton, John Hollandhead.
Johnson Creek—I. K. Lane, W. H. Hare.
Mount Nebo—W. K. Stoker, A. A. Reeder.
Bilbo—J. U. Cooper, W. L. Patrick.
Spring Bank—T. J. Deese, J. A. McMillan.
Red Bank—S. C. Givens, M. W. Bridges.
Chason—C. R. Thames, L. A. Green.

Moved, seconded and carried that Moderator and Clerk be added to the Executive Board.

The election of officers for the Executive Board resulted as follows:

Moderator—Bro. John Roberson.

Vice-Moderator—Bro. D. Henson.

Secretary—Jno. A. McMillan.

Place of meeting, Spring Bank, Saturday before the fourth Sunday in November, A. D. 1895.

The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That we pay Bro. G. W. Coker $2.38, amount due him for services rendered in 1894.

B. F. WOLARD, Chairman.

Report on Finance adopted as read.

J. M. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Report on Resolution adopted as read.

M. F. SMITH, Chairman.

The following delegates were appointed as corresponding messengers to our sister Associations:

Leaf River—A. C. Copeland, D. Henson, J. Slay.

South Eastern—J. M. Williams, Jno. Roberson, A. J. Easley.

Antioch—B. F. Wolard, Henry Shotes.

Mobile—J. A. McKay, C. Henson.

The following resolutions were adopted as read:

Resolved, That this Association meet with Antioch church on Friday before the first Lord's Day in October, A. D. 1896.

J. A. McKAY.

Resolved, That Bro. A. G. White preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Bro. D. Henson be his alternate.

J. C. WILLIAMS.

Resolved, That we return our most heart-felt thanks to the brothers, sisters and friends of Oak Grove church for the hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

Respectfully submitted,

M. F. SMITH.

On motion, the minutes were adopted as read to meet with Antioch church on Friday before the first Lord's Day in October, A. D. 1896.

ELDER D. HENSON, Moderator.

J. C. WILLIAMS, Vice-Moderator.

J. J. MASSEY, Clerk and Treasurer.

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SABBATH MORNING—11 O'CLOCK.

Elder D. Henson, after reading the 14th chapter of John, preached to a large and attentive congregation.

Sang, "Jesus, and Shall There Ever Be a Mortal Man Ashamed of Me."

Prayer by Bro. J. C. Williams.

Text, 15th verse of the 16th chapter of John, which reads as follows: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," after which a collection was taken up for missionary purposes Amount, $9.05.

Recess was then announced for thirty minutes, after which the audience was called to order by Bro. N. R. Baker.

Sang, "Come Thy Fount of Every Blessing."

Prayer by Bro. N. R. Baker.

Bro. Baker read the 3rd chapter of James and then preached to a large and attentive congregation. Text, 17th verse of the 3rd chapter of James.

# APPENDICES.

### A. Report of Finance Committee.

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following report, as amounts received from churches:

| | |
|---|---|
| Antioch, | $ 2 50 |
| Macedonia, | 2 50 |
| Oak Grove, | 4 00 |
| Washington, | 2 50 |
| Baset's Creek, | 2 00 |
| County Line, | 3 00 |
| Red Bank, | 1 50 |
| Johnson Creek, | 1 40 |
| Mount Nebo, | 1 50 |
| Bilbo, | 1 50 |
| Spring Bank, | 1 10 |
| Magnolia, | 1 50 |
| Total, | $25 00 |

Received for Missions from churches, none.

J. M. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

### B. On Sabbath Schools.

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to submit the following report:

We find a goodly number of Sabbath Schools at work in our Association. Brethren, we urge the great importance of this grand work, for the Lord said: "Suffer little children to come unto Me and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

C. HENSON, Chairman.

### C. On Letters and Documents.

Not reported.

### D. On Correspondence.

We, your committee on Correspondence, beg leave to submit the following report:

We have received two Corresponding Messengers, one by letter from Leaf River Association, E. W. L. Davis; the other from South Eastern Association, Bro. R. M. Holland.

We recommend that our Association corrrespond with our sister Associations. We also recommend that our sister churches correspond with each other throughout our Associations, which will make us more warm and loving toward each other by so doing.

I. K. LANE, Chairman.

### E. On Publications.

We, your committee on Publications, submit the following report:

We believe that the strength and perpetuity of our churches consists in the piety and intelligence of our people, as well as the soundness of our doctrines. In order to accomplish the end we would recommend, in addition to the earnest reading of God's word, the reading and use in all of our families and Sabbath Schools the publications of our own public; and we would also urge all of our families to subscribe for and read some good Baptist paper. We recommend to our churches that they patronize the Alabama Baptist or the Texas Baptist Standard. The reading of Baptist literature will educate and strengthen our churches and give them a

knowledge of the doctrines of our denomination at home and abroad.

Respectfully submitted,
J. M. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

**F. On Missions.**

We, your committee on Missions, beg leave to make the following report:

We believe that the spirit of Missions is the spirit of Christ, and that He came into the world as a great Missionary upon a great mission of love to seek and to save that which was lost. We would therefore recommend the Association to create an Executive Board, who shall control the general business of the Association and shall have full charge of the missionary work, and that the Moderator appoint one member from each church who shall serve for one year.

We would earnestly recommend the Association to send the gospel to the destitute places in the boundary of this Association.

Respectfully submitted,
W. K. STOKER, Chairman.

**G. On Tribute of Respect.**

We, your committee, on examination of the letters, find that it has pleased our Heavenly Father to remove from our midst four of our members, to-wit: Sister Ludie Henis, aged about 68 years; Bro. J. E. Williams, aged 78 years, who had lived a consistent Christian for about twenty years of his life; Bro. T. J. Stinson, aged 33 years, who for the past six years had lived a faithful soldier of the cross; Bro. Ed. Huggins, aged 35 years, who had lived a consistent Christian for the last eight years.

Brethren, God knows best, so let us submit to His calls, and submit ourselves to His omnipotent and ruling power. We also recommend that this committee be now discontinued.

A. C. COPELAND, Chairman.

**H. On Queries and Requests.**

We, your committee on Queries and Requests, submit the following report:

We find many requests from the different churches asking for the next session, and we recommend that the next session of this Association be held with Antioch church, Washington county, Alabama, Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1896.

We find one request from Mt. Nebo church, to take action on County Line church in dealing with Bro. H. N. Smith. We recommend that the Association refer the matter to County Line church.

MACK BRIDGES, Chairman.

**I. On Investigation.**

We, your committee on Investigation, beg leave to submit the following report:

In investigating the letters, we find that Mt. Nebo church is in error by her Moderator being excluded from his church.

On examination of the last year's report, we find that we are due the former Clerk $2.35. We only find $25 reported from the different churches this session.

W. N. HENDERSON, Chairman.

**J. On Temperance.**

We, your committee on Temperance, submit the following report:

We believe this to be a subject of vast importance to all. As we understand it, the meaning of temperance is to restrict the use of intoxicating liquors. One great drawback to the cause of Temperance is the conduct of professed Christians who use intoxicants in a moderate degree. This example is dangerous to young people, and the only safe way lies in the total abstinence, as far as possible, to promote the cause of Temperance. We should elect men to office who are opposed to the liquor traffic. As long as we have drunkards and liquor men in office we may expect to see our boys and young men growing up drunkards.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. TOUCHSTONE, Chairman.

### K. On Education.

We, your committee on Education, beg leave to report as follows:

That we consider this subject of very great importance, and would urge our people to educate their children to the utmost extent of their ability. We would also recommend that our people patronize, as far as possible, institutions of learning in our own land—our own denominational schools in preference to any others.

J. C. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

### Treasurer's Report.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Am't rec'd from Finance Committee.... | $25 00 | |
| Total am't Association Purposes..... | 25 00 | |
| Am't paid for printing..... | | $17 00 |
| " " " express and stationery.... | | 65 |
| " " Clerk..... | | 7 35 |
| | | $25 00 |
| Balance due Clerk..... | 65 | |

**Ordained Ministers.**

| | |
|---|---|
| O. Lyons, | Wager, Ala |
| D. Henson, | State Line, Miss |
| F. L. Moss, | Not given |
| A. G. White, | Escatawpa, Ala |
| A. McLane, | Pine Bluff, Miss |
| A. J. Easley, | St. Stephens, Ala |
| R. Brewer, | State Line, Miss |

**Licentiates.**

| | |
|---|---|
| D. P. Lankford, | State Line, Miss |

# CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, who, upon procuring their credentials, shall be entitled to seats; and members thus chosen and convened, shall be known as the Macedonia Baptist Association.

ART. 2. This Association shall annually, upon convening, proceed to choose from the members present a Moderator and a Clerk to preside over the deliberations of the body, and to keep order and make correct entries and minutes of their proceedings; and in their deliberations they shall be governed by the Rules of Decorum annexed to this Constitution, which rules may be altered or amended as the Association may think proper.

ART. 3. This Association shall have no power to interfere with or infringe upon the internal rights and privileges of the churches, but shall be only an advisory council and convention of the churches, to answer such questions as are lawfully sent up by the churches and give such advice as may strengthen the union and promote the happiness of the churches.

ART. 4. Matters of dealings shall not be introduced by individual members, but sent up by the church, clearly set forth in writing, with a statement that they have striven to reconcile the matter, but have failed. Then the Association may take it under consideration, and a decision by a majority shall be an advisory answer.

ART. 5. All matters that relate to the secular business and progress of the Association as a body, with the preaching of the Word to the attending congregation at their annual sessions, must be introduced by motion.

ART. 6. This Association shall pass no resolution touching the liberty of the churches or the individual members on pecuniary matters, but each shall have the liberty to act in that matter for himself.

ART. 7. New churches may be admitted into this union by messengers bearing letters of application, if

upon examination they be found orderly and orthodox; upon their reception the Moderator shall give the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 8. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates until her number shall amount to one hundred members, and one additional delegate for every fifty members over.

Art. 9. The churches shall transmit to each annual session of the Association written communications specifying the names of their messengers, the number received by baptism, received by letter, dismissed, excluded, restored and deceased since the last meeting of the Association, together with the whole number then in fellowship.

Art. 10. This Association shall open and continue a correspondence with such of her sister Associations as she may think proper.

Art. 11. This Association shall have the power to exclude from her body or union, after due labor, any church that may violate the Constitution or depart from orthodox principles of the gospel.

Art. 12. This Association shall have a fund to be supplied by voluntary contributions of the churches, or otherwise, as may be gratuitously contributed; and all moneys contributed by the churches shall be transmitted by their messengers and paid over to the Clerk, who shall be in charge of said fund, and dispose of the same agreeably to order, and at every annual session make a fair and substantial report thereon.

Art. 13. A suitable and well bound book for the Association shall be provided, in which the Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and the minutes of this and each succeeding session of this Association shall be legibly transcribed and recorded, and properly paged and indexed by or under the inspection of the Clerk, who shall be allowed to receive a fair compensation for his services; and it shall also be the duty of the Clerk of this Association and each of the churches to procure, if practicable, and preserve a regular file of the printed minutes of this Association.

Art. 14. Any proposed alteration or amendment to this Constitution shall be spread upon the minutes, and at the next session, on the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present, shall be adopted or amended.

Art. 15. Each church of this Association shall be entitled to four delegates by amendment of the 8th Article of this Constitution until the Association deems proper to again resume said 8th Article in its original meaning.

## RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened by prayer or praise.

2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretional right to call to order at any time.

4. Any member dissatisfied with the decision may appeal to the Association the same day, but at no other time.

5. But one shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and obtaining permission, may proceed.

6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking except he depart from the subject under debate, or use words of personal reflection.

8. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

9. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided on or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

10. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall put the question fairly to the Association for a decision.

11. Any person wishing to retire, shall first obtain permission from the Moderator.

12. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition without permission of the Association, nor more than once until every member wishing to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject until the debate has been carried through.

13. The appellation, "Brother," shall be used by the Association by members in their address one to the other.

14. The roll of the names of the delegates shall be called on Monday morning, and no names shall appear on the minutes who do not answer to their names, unless leave of absence be granted, or satisfactory excuse be rendered.

15. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which shall tend to interrupt public speaking.

16. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another member to his seat during the time; but he shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.

17. Any member violating these rules shall be reported by the Moderator at discretion, but only on the breach made.

18. These rules may be altered or amended when a majority of the members present may think proper to do so.

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## Articles of Faith--Proof Texts.

ART. 1. We believe in one true and living God—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost—three in one. 1 John 5:7; Matt. 3:15-17: John 14:16; Matt. 28:19.

ART. 2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice. 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:19-21.

ART. 3. We believe in the doctrine of original sin; that Adam disobeyed God, and that all mankind have

inherited a sinful nature from Adam. Gen. 3:1-7 Psalms 51:5 ; Rom. 5:12; Eph. 2:1.

Art. 4. We believe in man's inability to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by himself alone. Zach. 4:6 ; John 6:44 ; 1 Cor. 11:14 ; Rom. 8:7-8.

Art. 5. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the truth. Rom. 11:4-7 ; 2 Thess. 2:13 ; 1 Pet. 1:2.

Art. 6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ. Acts 13:39 ; Rom. 5:11-12, 23-25 ; Gal. 2:16.

Art. 7. We believe in the preservation of saints. Psalms 37:23, 23:28 ; Micah 7:8 ; John 5:24, 10:28 ; Rom. 8:35:49 ; 1 Pet. 1:3-5.

Art. 8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper and feet-washing are ordinances of Jesus Christ of perpetual obligation, and that none but true believers are fit subjects for these ordinances. John 1:33 ; Matt. 3:13-17 and 28:19-20 : Acts 1:22 and 2:41 ;Matt. 6:26-29 ; 2 Cor. 1:23-26 ; John 13:14-15.

Art. 9. We believe in one Lord, one faith and one baptism, and immersion only is baptism. Eph. 4:5 ; Rom. 6:4-6 ; Col. 2:12 ; Acts 3:38-39 ; Matt. 3:15.

Art. 10. We believe that no one is qualified to preach or administer the ordinances of the gospel, except he be called of God, as was Aaron, is set apart by, and is in good standing with the church of which he is a member, and come under the hands of the Presbytery, Mark 3:14 ; Acts 14:23 ; 1 Tim. 2:7 and 5:22 ; Heb. 5:4 ; John 4:2 ; Acts 8:28.

Art. 11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and the general judgment. John 5;28-29 ; Rev. 20;12-13 ; Acts 24;15.

Art. 12. We believe the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal. Matt. 26;46 ; Rev. 7;15-16 ; Col. 3;7 ; Thess. 5;7 ; Matt. 25-41-43.

### Form of Ministerial License.

This is to certify that Brother.....

is a member of.....Baptist church in good standing and fellowship. Trusting that God has called him to preach the gospel, we hereby license him to engage in the great work, and we offer to God our earnest prayers that he may become a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly divining the word of truth.

By order of the church, this .....day of..... 18....

.....Pastor.

.....Clerk.

### Form of Certificate of Ordination.

This is to certify that Brother..... was ordained to the work of the gospel ministry by prayer and the laying on of hands of the Eldership on the....day of.... .....18.... He was called to ordination by the church, of which he was a member, which had ample opportunity to become acquainted with his piety and ministerial gift. The ordaining council was composed of. .....Brother..... from.....churches, , who, after a deliberate and thorough examination of the candidate, cordially recommended him for ordination. Our beloved Brother.... ....., the bearer of this paper, has therefore the entire approbation of the ordaining council in being publicly set apart to preach the gospel and administer the ordinances of Christ. May he, like Barnabas, be full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and through him may many people be added to the Lord.

.....Moderator.

.....Clerk.

## Form of an Associational Letter.

The State of———, County of———,

The Baptist Church of Christ at———to the——— to be convened with the Baptist church of Christ at

———county of————,on——before the——Lord's day in——, A. D., 18—.

Sendeth greetings—

Dear Brethren—We again prepare to meet you by letter and delegates, and for this purpose have this day chosen our beloved brethren———delegates, and——— alternate, to sit with you in council, and to whom we refer you for any information not contained in our statistical table, which is as follows ;

Received by letter, —; Baptized, —; Restored, —; Excluded, —; Dismissed by letter, —; Ordained ministers, —; Dead, —; For Missions, —; Postoffice at,—; Pastoral Supply, —; Licentiates, —; Number males in fellowship, —; Number of females in fellowship, —, Total, —; Associational purposes, —; Number of copies of minutes, —; Our time of meetiug, —; Time of prayer, —.

Dear brethren, pray for us, and may the Great Head of the church be with you to bless and guide you in all your deliberations. Dear brethren, we request that the next session of the———be held with——church,—— county. Done by order of the church in conference this——of——, A. D., 18—.

Elder———Moderator.

———Clerk.

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## Form of a Church Letter.

The State of————, }
————County. }

We, the Regular Baptist church at————, holding the doctrine of election, final preservation of the saints in grace, and baptism by immersion as the only scriptural mode, do hereby certify that our dearly beloved brother, ———, is a member in good standing and full fellowship with us and is hereby dismissed from us when joined to any other church of the same faith and order.

Done by order of the church in conference, this—— Saturday before the first Lord's day———, 189—.

————————, Moderator.

————————, Clerk.

# STATISTICAL TABLE.

| CHURCHES. | COUNTY. | PASTORS. | CLERKS. | POST-OFFICE. | Membership Last Report | Incr'sd | | | Statement. | Decreased | | | | Present Membership. | Associational Purposes. | No. Copy of Minutes. | Ordained Ministers. | Licentiates. | Preaching Sabbath. | Missions. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | Baptized. | Letters. | Restored. | | Letters. | Excluded. | Deaths. | Dropped. | | | | | | | |
| New Hope | Washington. | D. Henson | | | | | | 2 | | | 3 | | | 29 | $ 1 50 | 10 | | 1 | 1 | |
| Spring Bank | Washington. | D Henson. | Jno. A. McMillan | State Line, Miss | | 6 | 10 | | | 4 | 5 | | | 67 | 1 10 | 10 | 1 | | 4 | |
| Macedonia | Washington. | B. Byrd | J. M. Williams | Platt, Miss | 54 | | | | | | 2 | 3 | | 48 | 2 50 | 20 | | | 2 | |
| County Line | Wayne | | W. L. Henderson | State Line, Miss | 54 | | | | | 1 | 4 | | | 59 | 3 00 | 14 | | | 1 | |
| Bilbo | Washington. | F. L. Moss | Eb. Dunam | Seaboard, Ala | | 9 | 13 | | | | | | | 22 | 1 50 | 15 | | | 2 | |
| Antioch | Washington. | J. L. Cassey | W. Norton | State Line, Miss | 64 | 3 | | | | 4 | 1 | 1 | | 61 | 1 50 | 20 | | | 2 | |
| Johnson Creek | Green | R. Brewer | H. Brewer | State Line, Miss | 46 | 8 | | 4 | | | 4 | | | 56 | 1 40 | 12 | 1 | | 4 | |
| Mount Nebo | Washington. | H. N. Smith | Elizabeth Kelley | St. Stehpens, Ala | 7 | 22 | 7 | | | | | | | 36 | 1 50 | 12 | | | 3 | |
| Oak Grove | Washington. | D. Henson | G. W. Coker | State Line, Miss | 68 | 6 | 2 | 1 | | 6 | 1 | | | 69 | 4 00 | 30 | | | 3 | |
| Magnolia | Wayne | H. N. Smith | B. F. Woulard | State Line, Miss | 56 | 1 | | 3 | | 11 | 6 | | | 27 | 1 50 | 20 | | 1 | 4 | |
| Washington | Washington. | D. Henson. | J. W. Henson | Hawthorn | 22 | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | 22 | 2 50 | 15 | 1 | | 4 | |
| Baset's Creek | Washington. | A. J. Easley | J. M. Porter | St. Stephens, Ala | 20 | | 1 | | | | | | | 18 | 2 00 | 15 | 1 | | 2 | |
| Liberty | Washington. | | | State Line, Miss | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chason | Wayne | | | Buckatunna | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| New Prospect | Washington. | | | St. Stephens | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sandridge | Washington. | | | Aquilla | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | | | | | 437 | 55 | 34 | 10 | | 26 | 27 | 4 | | 514 | $25 00 | 210 | 4 | 2 | | |